



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHITNEY MAN INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN FIREARMS THEFT CASE

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton and ATF Special Agent in Charge James "Dewey" Webb announced that 26 year-old Jason Carl McCoy of Whitney, TX, faces federal firearms charges for stealing over 75 firearms from a Federal Firearms Licensee.

A federal grand jury indictment, returned yesterday, charges McCoy with one count each of possession of a stolen firearm; possession of a firearm by a convicted felon; stealing a firearm from a federal firearms licensee; and, possession of ammunition by a convicted felon.

Authorities allege that on October 30, 2006, McCoy stole more than 75 firearms—including two .50 caliber rifles—and ammunition from Trader Vic's Gun Parts in Whitney. McCoy's criminal history includes a 2002 robbery conviction in Johnson County, Texas. Authorities have recovered approximately half of the stolen firearms.

McCoy was arrested on November 23, 2006. He remains in custody pending trial. Upon conviction, McCoy faces up to ten years in federal prison and a maximum \$250,000 fine per count.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives together with the Hill County Sheriff's Office. Assistant United States Attorney Shelly Strimple is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

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